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MISSION COMPLETE



Christine June

Pvt. 2 Nathaniel Beeghly, combat engineer, 40th Engineer Battalion, places a chock block on a railcar July 18 to prevent the tracks on an M9 Armored Combat Earthmover from moving.

3-day mission largest this year

by Christine June
USAG Kaiserslautern

Pvt. 2 José Ballesteros describes driving over a 7-inch metal block on a wooden railcar while sitting on top of an almost 10-foot high vehicle weighing more than 24

metric tons as a "little weird."

"It feels like you're going over something really big, and you might tip over because it's on a railcar and not on the ground," said

See RAIL, Page 8

VEHICLE deployment

2nd BCT deployed 150 tracked vehicles from the M-9 ACE to the M2A2 Bradley fighting vehicle to Grafenwöhr, making this railhead mission the largest so far this year.

Harry Potter fans celebrate magical night

By Kelli Bland
Herald-Post Editor

The first hours of Saturday morning were unusually busy for the AAFES BookMark in Heidelberg as the release of the seventh and final installment of the globally-popular Harry Potter series drew about 450 adults and children.

Across the United States, more than 8.3 million copies of the book sold in the first 24 hours, according to U.S. publisher Scholastic Inc. About 2.6 million copies were sold in Britain the first day.

More than 2,300 books were purchased from various locations across U.S. Army Garrison Heidelberg over the weekend. About 470 of those were sold at the Heidelberg location, which management ensured was well stocked for the event.

"As a retiree myself, I understand the military family and their concerns about the availability of all products," said Kris Edkin, Heidelberg BookMark manager. "We, at AAFES, continue to strive to keep up with the high demand our customers have — not just in books — but in other areas that have release dates like music and DVDs."

Shane Bishop, 2nd Signal Brigade,

See POTTER, Page 8

Camp ARMY Challenge offers fun for kids with deployed parents

By Art McQueen
Herald-Post Staff

In a one-week program supporting deploying Soldiers and their families named Camp ARMY Challenge, nearly 80 youth from all over Europe recently explored and learned the history of Heidelberg.

Standing for "Adventure, Resilience, Memories, Youth," the camp is hosted by IMCOM-Europe Morale, Welfare and Recreation Child and Youth Services. It lived up to its name as the middle school-aged students, all with deployed or deploying parents, figured out transportation routes, hiked up hills, canoed down river through and around locks, made

new friendships, and discovered what makes Heidelberg so special.

Group leader Joe Marton, CYS program specialist, kept a sharp eye but a loose hand on the activities as the group boarded public transportation, eventually reaching the far side of Neckargemünd.

"I'm not dictating how they get there; I'm going to give them our expected arrival time at our destination, and the options for how to travel," he said with a smile. "These are bright kids; you just need to give them the chance to figure things out."

Arriving at the canoe rental on the

See CAMP, Page 8



Art McQueen

Camp ARMY Challenge participants canoe past Heidelberg's Altebrücke and Schloss, as part of a week-long course.

Inside:

Summer Slam sports frenzy, Page 14

ID card woes across garrison, Page 3

Darmstadt Soldier: MP deserves appreciation

Dear Editor,

A few weeks ago, my bike was stolen from the bike rack outside the Darmstadt commissary.

The bike is old and crusty; I bought it from a flea market for 25 euro, and with only one gear and rear coaster brakes, it's barely able to be ridden. Its saving graces can be counted on one hand – a sky blue paint job (only a little chipped), a white seat (only marginally uncomfortable) and a headlamp.

I don't really understand why anyone stole it, and I didn't have any idea how I could get it back. I filed an official statement with an officer at the military police station on Cambrai-Fritsch Kaserne. This police officer, Sgt. Latonia Taylor of the 430th MP Detachment, assured me that she would keep an eye out for the bike as she patrolled the Darmstadt community. The desk sergeant insisted that I would never see my bike again and gave the general impression that further action was both unnecessary and unwarranted.

Still, Taylor double-checked the details and persisted in the investigation. Less than 24 hours later, thanks to Taylor's hard work and dedication, my bike was back in my possession.

During a routine patrol on Lincoln Village, she spotted the bike lying in the grass, checked the description and contacted the central station. Two hours later, I filed a final statement and pedaled away.

Taylor's commitment to her job as an MP officer is laudable. However, it is some of the comments she made while taking my statements that really made me realize how much I take the Darmstadt community's MP force for granted.

Taylor is deployed. She has a civilian job in the United States and a family she will return to after her deployment is complete.



Amy Buenning Sturm

Sgt. Latonia Taylor is a member of the 430th Military Police Company, which is currently deployed to Darmstadt to assist with law and order operations.

Like the deployed Soldiers featured in the Herald-Post or Stars and Stripes, she traveled to Iraq for a full 12 months, placing an entire life on back burners to support the war efforts. But unlike those Soldiers, Taylor did not return to her family at the end of her tour – she was sent to Germany to cover for Darmstadt MPs serving in Iraq.

Darmstadt isn't a war zone by any means, but as any deployed Soldier knows, the separation from family and friends can be an ordeal worse than mortar attacks and sniper fire. The stress and isolation from living in a foreign country can be exhausting, and the six-day work weeks are a trial unto themselves, especially when constant patrolling makes missed meals a regular occurrence.

Taylor, however, has not let the long hours or difficult conditions push her into apathy or indifference.

She cares. She cared enough to look for my bike when others did not even want to take a basic description, and she continues to care every single day as she watches out for the welfare of Darmstadt community residents.

On some level, I just wish that the Darmstadt community would take a second to express its thanks for the Soldiers like Taylor, who are deployed to Germany, and who take care of us all when our resident MPs are deployed to take care of warfighters in Iraq. We spend a lot of time showing appreciation for deployed Soldiers abroad, but we practically ignore those deployed to our own backyard.

Sincerely,
Sgt. Tona Trice
2nd Military Intelligence Battalion,
66th MI Group

MILITARY police

by Amy Buenning Sturm

Sgt. Latonia Taylor is a member of 2nd Platoon, 430th Military Police Company, currently deployed to U.S. Army Garrison Darmstadt. The 430th MP Company, which arrived in May, is supporting law and order operations at U.S. Army installations across U.S. Army Europe. Their mission, according to Sgt. 1st Class James Gay, the unit's platoon sergeant, is to provide around-the-clock law and order operations to the communities they support for approximately the next 10 months.

The Soldiers who make up the company, while headquartered in New Jersey, hail from all across the United States and were originally trained in other military occupational specialties.

Many of the MPs now serving with the 430th were retrained to be military police at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., prior to deployment. According to Gay, a majority of the Soldiers in his unit have mobilized overseas before during deployments to Operation Iraq Freedom in Iraq or Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

"They have distinguished themselves as professionals who are very personable and responsive to our community in a short time," said Maj. Lonny MacDonald, Darmstadt's Director of Emergency Services and Provost Marshal. "I'm positive the community's law enforcement needs and expectations are in very good hands."

According to Master Sgt. Adam McBride, Darmstadt's MP operations sergeant, the bike theft incident detailed in Trice's letter occurred shortly after the Soldiers began working the roads in the Darmstadt community.

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ID CARDS

Long lines lead to extended hours

by Art McQueen
Herald-Post Staff

Waiting in line rates right up there with cleaning toilets on anyone’s list of fun things to do. Waiting in line unnecessarily is even worse.

The U.S. Army Garrison Heidelberg ID Card office is battling long lines and wait times caused by a new system and a heavy influx of new community members and lost cards by expanding hours and ensuring its customers are aware of alternate sites for certain issues.

In the last six months, the office has issued more than 4,000 ID cards. The average wait time has been one to two hours before the customer is called, said Derik Gibson, chief of the Heidelberg Garrison ID card and passport office. “It can be very frustrating.”

According to Gibson, security requirements mean new cards must go through a rigorous verification process. “With the encoded chip, it has to be certified with the system back in the States, it takes seven to 10 minutes for the encoding and verification, and another five minutes to print out the card – this is when the system is functioning normally.”

The large PCS season is not the only reason for the lines. “We have also had a large number of local national employees and contractors who need ID cards,” Gibson said.

In addition, more than 3,400 ID cards have been lost or stolen throughout USAG Heidelberg so far this year and need to be replaced.

To handle the extra workload, through Sept. 1, the ID card office will open at 7 a.m. and close to new customers at 6 p.m.

Not everyone waiting in Building 3850 needs to be there. For civilians and family members, the shopping center is the place to go for new or replacement IDs, but Soldiers may simply need to visit their unit per-



To handle the extra workload, through Sept. 1, the Heidelberg ID card office will open at 7 a.m. and close to new customers at 6 p.m.

sonnel office.

“Under the Personnel Services Delivery Redesign, there are certain units we no longer service,” said Gibson.

Soldiers in the units listed should get their IDs through their personnel section.

Locked out?

Common Access Card PIN resets are another line-lengthener that has made waits longer than necessary.

Computer accounts that have been locked out no longer require a visit to Building 3850, but some persist in waiting.

“We have done more than 670 PIN changes in the past 180 days,” said Dom Buther, chief of the military personnel section for USAG Heidelberg.

“There are several pin setting stations in the Heidelberg community that individuals can use rather than coming to the ID card section and waiting to be called on,” he added.

Customers can also ensure quick processing by having all of their pa-

PINreset		
Location		DSN Phone
Campbell Barracks	Building 16	370-7724 or 370-7796
Campbell Barracks	Building 9	370-5611 or 370-5621
Nachrichten Kaserne	Building 3611	371-3189 or 371-2045
Patton Barracks	Building 115	373-7791/8529/6476
Tompkins Barracks	Building 4222, 3rd Floor	379-6599 or 5281

perwork in order when they arrive, Buther said.

A civilian employee needs two forms of picture identification, plus civilian personnel office forms, said Gibson.

They must also be registered in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database, said Buther.

“This has been a holdup. I have five new employees who started last week who have not been able to be issued an ID card because they are not appearing in the system.”

The help desk is in Washington, D.C. “That is one of the problems we have. Everyone in the world who

GETTINGidentification	
Heidelberg units with ID card issuing authority	
Unit	DSN Phone
USAREUR	370-6498
V Corps	379-4102
18th Engineer Brigade	370-7484
43rd Signal Battalion	370-6173
181st Signal Battalion	370-7227
93rd Medical Battalion (Dental)	371-2817
Europe Regional Veterinary Command	371-3460
30th Medical Brigade	371-2550
302nd MI Battalion	373-5066
529th MP Company	373-8283

issues ID cards is on that system,” he said.

Soldiers that are not in the PSDR units simply need their current ID card and copies of any paperwork, such as promotion orders, authorizing a change to their ID, Gibson explained.

Contractors have basically the same requirements as civilian employees, according to Gibson.

In most cases, the contractor must have his passport, and a driver’s license or other picture ID, he added, “but the passport is the most important because it allows us to verify his status.”

Required class in Kaiserslautern addresses lost ID card issue

by Christine June
USAG Kaiserslautern Public Affairs

Lost identification and common access cards are just what terrorists and criminals need to kill Americans or steal their identities, said the U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern’s security director.

“I just don’t think people really understand the ramifications when (ID/CAC cards) are lost,” said Maj. William Hunt, who as the garrison’s Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security director is conscientious of the security for close to 23,000 Army personnel who live and work in the Kaiserslautern military community.

One of the most frequent threats to this security as well as for the more than 30,000 other Americans who also live and work here is the lost or stolen ID and CAC card, Hunt said.

A required class for KMC Soldiers, Department of Army civilians and their family members who

report a lost or stolen ID card started this month with the intention of lessening this loss of security.

Hunt, his staff and officials with the 21st Theater Support Command developed this one-hour class to be held every Saturday at 10 a.m. in Room 211A in Building 3005 on Panzer Kaserne in Kaiserslautern.

They wrote the script so 21st TSC staff duty officers can uniformly emphasize the importance of a lost or stolen ID as well as identifying the agencies in the community that are working diligently to protect Americans here.

Hunt said the class is intended as an embarrassment or punishment to those who lose their ID cards.

The class is held on Saturdays, he said, so those attending can concentrate on the information being presented instead worrying about getting back to work.

It is also not an overreaction to a small, insufficient problem, said Elaine Leist, the garrison’s deputy commander.

She reads the KMC blotter prepared by the garrison’s Provost Marshal’s Office every day and estimates that five to seven ID cards are reported lost or stolen every work day, and as many as 10 on the weekends.

The number of lost or stolen ID cards for Fiscal Year 2006 is 419, and Leist said this number is already higher for FY 2007.

“We are very cognizant of the security issue with lost ID cards,” she said.

“This class is to reiterate what it means when you lose it, and the impact it has on everybody in the community when an ID card is lost.”

Authorized users reporting a lost or stolen ID card will be first issued a new one and then will be required to attend the next class, Hunt said.

COMMUNITYnews

DoD increases R&R policy

The Department of Defense approved a policy change to the U.S. Central Command Rest and Recuperation Leave Program July 17 to increase the time provided to military service members for rest and recuperation in support of operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

The policy change increases the R&R leave period from 15 to 18 chargeable days for those service members deploying to the OEF and OIF area of operations for 15 months.

The amended policy became effective July 13, applies to military personnel only, and is not retroactive. Service members serving one-year tours will continue to receive 15 days of chargeable R&R leave.

New DUI law shows zero tolerance

A German traffic law will go into effect Aug. 1 that shows zero tolerance for drivers younger than 21 who drink and drive, say U.S. Army Europe legal officials. Under the new law, drivers who have not yet reached their 21st birthdays are subject to being charged with driving under the influence if any level of alcohol is found in their blood while operating a vehicle. USAREUR officials plan to provide further details on the new law as they become available.

New smoking ban possible starting next month

This month, Baden-Württemberg's state parliament will vote on a cabinet proposal to ban smoking in public buildings. The smoking ban will also include all restaurants unless they have a separate, enclosed room for smokers. If passed, the law could become effective Aug. 1.

The extended smoking ban is to emulate other European countries who have passed more restrictive smoking laws years ago. Exceptions to the no-smoking rule for restaurants would apply to outdoor venues, such as the popular Biergärten, street cafés, temporary fest tents and mobile refreshment booths. High schools and vocational schools will have permission to create separate "smokers' corners" for students aged 18 or older.

Hot dog chili sauce recall

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is warning consumers not to eat certain brands of hot dog chili sauce listed in a July 18 voluntary recall because of possible botulism contamination. Food safety officials at the Defense Commissary Agency said DeCA carries two of the 10 product brands mentioned - Castleberry Hot Dog Chili Sauce (UPC: 03030000101) and Castleberry Chili with Beans (UPC: 03030001015). The voluntary recall by the Castleberry Food Company lists products with "best by" dates of April 30, 2009 through May 22, 2009. "Best by" dates are found on the can lids.

"Soldier Bear" recall

AAFES has expanded the recall for "Soldier Bear" toy sets by Toy Century due to high levels of lead in the surface paints used on the toy action figures and animals. Consumers should stop using the recalled products immediately.

Village Pavilion closed in August

The Village Pavilion on Patrick Henry Village will be closed for maintenance throughout the month of August.

Some TRICARE data put at risk

By Fred W. Baker III
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Data for nearly 600,000 households enrolled in TRICARE stored on a government-contractor's unprotected computer server could have been exposed to hackers, defense officials announced Friday.

"We take this potential data compromise very seriously," said Maj. Gen. Elder Granger, deputy director, TRICARE Management Activity. "The risk has been identified as low, but ... the Department of Defense is ensuring that steps are taken to keep affected beneficiaries informed."

Beneficiaries' names, addresses, Social Security Numbers, birth dates and some health information was stored on a computer server that was not using a firewall and did not have adequate

password protection, TRICARE Management Activity officials said.

Officials disabled the server in May, and it is no longer used. Forensic analysis of the server found no evidence that any beneficiary information was compromised, said Leslie Shaffer, assistant privacy officer at the activity.

Science Applications International Corp. maintained the data in Shalimar, Fla., and used it to process several military health care contracts, including those for customers in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard. The server allowed for File Transfer Protocol transmissions of the data to its contract customers.

This is the first time SAIC has violated Defense Department computer security procedures, Shaffer said.

Re-enlistment program offers career security

By Staff Sgt. Marc Brooks
U.S. Army Europe Retention Operations

The Army's Indefinite Re-enlistment Program does not mean a Soldier is "locked in" to a contract with the Army indefinitely, according to retention officials.

The program was designed to give quality non-commissioned officers in the ranks of staff sergeant through sergeant major a greater sense of security by offering a career contract, similar to that by which Army officers are retained, that provides one final contract to take them to retirement.

When an eligible NCO re-enlists, he is processed through the RETAIN re-enlistment computer system, completes all required re-enlistment documents, and takes the oath of enlistment. At that time, retention officials explained, the Soldier's new expiration of term of service date will become the same date as the retention control point for his current rank.

For example, a staff sergeant can remain in the Army for 22 years and not have to re-enlist again. From that point on, when the Soldier is promoted, his ETS date will be updated to reflect the RCP for the new rank.

If a Soldier serving on an indefinite re-enlistment has less than 20 years service and exceeds an RCP due to being reduced in rank, the Soldier may remain on active duty to attain retirement eligibility unless separated earlier for other administrative, physical or Uniform Code of Military Justice reasons.

After re-enlisting for the indefinite program, a Soldier can request voluntary separation or retirement, provided all service remaining requirements have been fulfilled, in a manner similar to officers.

For example, if a staff sergeant with 11 years time in service who re-enlists under the indefinite re-enlistment program is reassigned to the U.S., he incurs a 12-month SRR. Once the 12 months are complete, he can request separation through his servicing personnel office.

Other SRRs a staff sergeant could incur include 24 months for promotion to sergeant first class, 12 to 36 months for reassignment (depending on the type of tour), or 12 months to receive corrective eye surgery.

Soldiers who would like more information on the indefinite re-enlistment program should contact their local career counselor or re-enlistment NCO.

MINE TRAINING



Spec. Sean C. Finch

Spec. Brian Marks, a nuclear, biological and chemical specialist for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Europe, inspects the components of a dummy M-18 Claymore antipersonnel mine during a demonstration of mine emplacement. The demonstration was part of the company's "skills refresher" training in Schwetzingen July 19.

TRANSFORMINGcommunity

As Darmstadt prepares to close in the coming year, activities and hours throughout the garrison will change

Fitness Center

Kelly Barracks Fitness Center's new hours of operation are Monday-Friday, 5:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. The Kelley Barracks Fitness Center will be closed on weekends and all federal and U.S. Army Europe training holidays. DSN 348-6353, civilian 06151-69-6353.

Darmstadt community members can still use the Cambrai-Fritsch Kaserne Fitness Center from Monday-Friday, 5:30 a.m.-9 p.m. and Saturday, Sunday and holidays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. DSN 348-6318, civilian 06151-69-6318.

Outdoor Recreation

Effective immediately, all Outdoor Recreation trips from U.S. Army Garrison Darmstadt have been cancelled.

Outdoor Recreation will remain open as a rental facility and will continue to rent bouncy castles, inflatables, bikes, canoes and other equipment. DSN 348-6277, civilian 06151-69-6277.

Religious Services

The final Protestant worship service will be held July 29 at 10:30 a.m. at Kelley Barracks Chapel.

Effective Aug. 5, the Kelley Barracks Protestant worship service will consolidate into the Protestant worship service held every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. at Cambrai-Fritsch Kaserne Chapel. All Darmstadt community members who wish to worship at a Protestant service will be welcomed into the Cambrai-Fritsch Kaserne Chapel community.

Child and Youth Services

The school liaison officer is now located in the Child Development Center to assist in operations and be more accessible to the consolidated school. DSN 348-6827, civilian 06151-69-6827.

Facilities not listed

Organizations, facilities and services not listed with changes are maintaining current operating hours, until further notice.

To reference current operating hours, access the Darmstadt phone book on the garrison Web site.

More information

For more transformation information visit www.darmstadt.army.mil. Click on "Transformation and Closure" to access official announcements, changes to hours, services and moving information.

DARMSTADT

Summer hires gain real-world experience

By Osia Gary

USAG Darmstadt Summer Hire

The U.S. Army Europe summer hire program, which began June 25 and runs through Aug. 5, is available for teens who want to work for the government during summer vacation and earn a little extra money.

Summer hires at U.S. Army Garrison Darmstadt use their summer work experience to learn new skills at locations throughout the garrison.

Terrell Harper works in the Morale, Welfare and Recreation office and can be found surrounded by scattered nails, bits and screws. His summer job includes "taking apart hard drives to be sent to a metal junkyard and (doing) paperwork."

Harper said his summer hire experience will help prepare him for entering the adult workforce. "Technology is advancing every day and is a world that you can't know enough about. I'm gaining skills that will help me to keep up with growing industry needs."

Fellow summer hire Brandon Lockridge, Department of Logistics Transportation, describes his job as "something to do during summer break." He said this experience would not only help him with his future career, but it will also carry over into improving his school work.

"I'm answering phones, filing papers, and making excel spreadsheets, which are all things I can put on my resume and are skills I need at school,"



Osia Gary

Gregory Donaldson fixes a bike at Darmstadt's Outdoor Recreation as part of the U.S. Army Europe summer hire program.

Lockridge said.

Christina Cash, who works at MWR, said that working in an office has made her more responsible. "I have to get up early, be on time, and do my work without pouting about it."

Not all summer hires in Darmstadt are working in comfortable offices like Harper, Lockridge and Cash, however. Gregory Donaldson, Outdoor Recreation Center, enjoys that fact.

"This job is pretty fun because I get to work with the equipment and rent out bikes, canoes, and other sporting goods," Donaldson said. "I spend most of my day outside, and I like this better

than being in an office all day."

As the summer hire program winds down, summer hires reflect on their experiences. Many are sad to see their jobs come to an end. Summer hire Tiffani Thomas, who works at the Child Development Center, is grateful for the program.

"As a college student I feel as though you can never have enough funds," Thomas said. "I'm going back to school in August with not only more money, but also more experience. Working at the CDC through the summer hire program has opened up the door for other opportunities."

Darmstadt ACS provides relocation assistance

by Amy Buenning Sturm

USAG Darmstadt Public Affairs

At U.S. Army Garrison Darmstadt, Army Community Services is providing an additional service to help ease the transition as Darmstadt community members prepare for their next duty station. Kent Thompson is the Relocation Readiness Program manager at Darmstadt's Army Community Service.

Where can Army families go for information on their new community?

We used to go to SITES to find out just about everything there is to know about nearly every military base the U.S. has. Now, we can get the same quality information from a new source. Part of the Military Homefront Web site operations, MilitaryInstallations is the new trusted source for information on installations around the world. Go to www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil and click on the MilitaryInstallations logo in the upper left hand corner of the screen.

What services are available at ACS for Darmstadt residents preparing to PCS?

Fortunately, many services at ACS will continue until the doors close

for the last time. We are even offering new classes to help families during transformation. The Relocation Assistance Program is proud to offer Re-Entry Workshops to all who are preparing to move to the United States. It's called "There's No Place Like Ur Nxt Home," because there really is no place like your new home and new community.

What does this new class cover? How can it assist Army families during the transformation process?

This is not a briefing or a class. "There's No Place Like Ur Nxt Home," is centered on the customer. Attendees will get the information and attention they deserve while preparing to PCS or ETS back to the United States. There have been several people who have come through the doors of ACS lately that really should have come to the workshop. They were within days of flying and had so much stress. Most of it was absolutely preventable – they just didn't have all the information available to prepare for this transition. We provide that information.

The workshops are regularly scheduled events and also available to family readiness groups and units by re-

quest. The relocation manager at 06151-69-7111 can set up the dates and times. "There's No Place Like Ur Nxt Home" covers important subjects related to your move, such as managing the movement of your property, the psychological effects of movement stressors and even some lighter side subjects – like remembering it's okay to turn right on a red light back in the U.S. For those who have school aged children, the school liaison officer is part of the workshop and can answer school related questions. "MilitaryInstallations" file requests will be available at the workshop, as well as a variety of books and pamphlets, all designed to help you easily transition from Germany to the USA.

How can Darmstadt residents attend the workshop?

Pre-registration for the workshops is required by calling the Darmstadt ACS or by e-mailing Darmstadt_ACS@eur.army.mil. The next Re-Entry Workshop is Aug. 9 in the Army Community Services Building on Cambrai-Fritsch Kaserne (Building 4008) from 1:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. Participants can come at 1:30, receive all the information they need, and then leave at their leisure.

RAIL

(from Page 1)

Ballesteros, an M9 Armored Combat Earthmover driver with the 40th Engineer Battalion.

The 40th Engineer Battalion conducted a railhead mission, deploying 26 track vehicles for training exercises in Grafenwöhr July 18 at the Railhead Operations Center on Rhine Ordnance Barracks in Kaiserslautern. This was the first of a three-day railhead mission for the 2nd Brigade Combat Team out of Baumholder.

In total, the 1st Armored Division's 2nd BCT deployed 150 tracked vehicles from the M9 ACE to the M2A2 Bradley fighting vehicle to Grafenwöhr, making this railhead mission the largest so far this year, said Maurice Jefferson, the U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern traffic manager.

A railhead mission is the loading or unloading of vehicles and equipment for deployment downrange or redeployment to home station. It happens in the Kaiserslautern military community up to 10 times a year under the watchful eyes of the garrison's transportation and safety personnel, who oversee all railhead missions here.

"Safety is the number one issue during a railhead because there are a lot of moving parts," Jefferson said.

It's the deploying or redeploying units' Soldiers who carry out the railhead mission of loading or unloading equipment, but it's the garrison personnel who take the lead by giving safety briefings, conducting risk assessments, and watching every movement from the staging to the blocking and bracing of vehicles on the railcars.

The garrison's safety manager, Melissa Hastings said every railhead operation is different, and watchful eyes are critical to ensure it runs smoothly and safely, just like this one for the 2nd BCT.

Roughly 3,500 Soldiers from the 2nd BCT will conduct gunnery exercises for about 55 days. "We are going to do anywhere from individual rifles, pistols and machineguns to squad and platoon live fire exercises," said Lt. Col. Dominic Sparacio, 40th Engineer Battalion commander.

After training in Grafenwöhr, the brigade will then head to Hohenfels to conduct a mission rehearsal exercise to be certified for its deployment to Iraq in November.

This railhead mission was crucial, said Sparacio, because training in Grafenwöhr before the MRE is crucial.

POTTER

(from Page 1)

was first in line at the Heidelberg store, waiting eagerly for more than four hours to purchase a copy of the highly-publicized book, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows."

Bishop stood with his feet planted while hundreds of adults gathered in line behind him, and children up past bedtime raced broomsticks, decorated cupcakes, and watched Harry Potter movies on a big-screen television – all counting down the minutes until they could read the final installment of the series that has swept the world into its magical web.

Edkin, who was eagerly checking on his customers and employees to ensure a successful evening, said he has participated in most of the previous Harry Potter events. "This is one of the good perks about retail," he said. "It's sad, though, that it is the last book of a great series by J. K. Rowling."

Bishop said Rowling has a way of describing the scenes so vividly that reading it creates a movie-like picture in his head. "The characters become like your friends – you want to know what your friends are doing," he said.

Bishop started reading the series after the fourth book and came out "to see what all the hype was about." He was injured and recuperating at home. Thirty pages into the fourth book, he was so engaged that he called a friend to bring him the rest of the series.

Bishop isn't the only one in his family to join in the Harry Potter craze. His 9-year-old daughter has read the books in English and is now reading them in German to discover the differences between the two versions.

On the whole, the series has sold more than 325 million copies worldwide.



Kelli Bland

Children watch the fourth Harry Potter movie inside a tent located just outside the Heidelberg BookMark. The movie played while about 450 people waited Friday night for the midnight release of the final Harry Potter book.

CAMP

(from Page 1)

group met the guides, received a safety briefing, put on life vests, took hold of the paddles, and got out on the water.

For many, it was their first time in a canoe, but the nervous glances at the water quickly gave way to spontaneous singing, mini-races and smiles, even when rain started coming down.

The camaraderie made the German guides smile and join in as well.

"Everyone was asking me, 'Man where did you get these kids,'" Marton said. "They couldn't believe they all just met each other, and are working together so well as a team."

"They have things in common that not every kid has, and they are using those strengths to build friendships and life skills that will not only make them successful now, but in the future."

Some of their parents are about to deploy, some are just finishing, and some have parents downrange right now, Marton said. "Here they can come together and talk about the life skills they have learned. It's what they need to empower them to succeed."

After passing several barges, riverside campgrounds and tourist cruisers, which dwarfed the



Art McQueen

Comfortably ahead of the pack, Camp ARMY Challenge participants put their paddles up and enjoy the scenery on the Neckar river between Neckargemünd and Heidelberg.

small boats, the fleet of canoes made its way through a lock, which allowed them to paddle past the small generators damming the river.

The castle view and the passage underneath the historic Altebrücke impressed many young travelers. "Amazing," said Courtney from Bamberg, who ran out of words, "coming up on the bridge, the castle was in view on the hill, and ..."

Anna, from Vilseck, was impressed with the mansion-like houses lining the river. "I'm going to make some serious money and buy one."

For others the journey was the thing. "The whirlpool around the bridge was awesome," said Jair,

from Vilseck.

Disembarking dry and happy, but hungry, the students broke for lunch, before starting a tour of the original center of Heidelberg, called the Altstadt, and ending at the castle, or Schloss.

"This entire program is about us facilitating experiences for these kids in a safe, positive environment – to enable them to be responsible, caring, capable and ethical citizens of the world," Marton said, "and I think we met that challenge."

Editors note: At the request of the program managers for force protection considerations, only the participants' first names were used.

UNIT CHANGES



Angelika Lantz

Col. Martin Pitts, commander, 16th Sustainment Brigade, and Command Sgt. Maj. James Spencer case the 7th Corps Support Group colors during the 16th Sustainment Brigade activation at the Warner Barracks parade field July 16.

21st TSC activates new brigade

**By Angelika Lantz
21st TSC Public Affairs**

BAMBERG – The day was as hot as it was historically significant for the 400 Soldiers participating in the 16th Sustainment Brigade activation July 16 at Warner Barracks parade field in Bamberg.

During the two-part ceremony, Col. Martin Pitts and Command Sgt. Maj. James Spencer first cased the colors of the “Onward with Support,” 7th Corps Support Group to signify the unit’s deactivation.

Next, they unfurled the 16th Sustainment Brigade’s colors and placed them to fly alongside the American and German flags in the color guard formation to symbolize the brigade’s activation.

The new sustainment brigade, which comes under the command of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command headquartered in Kaiserslautern, is part of the Army’s transformation plan, conceived to bridge the past and the future.

“This transformation process takes us from a legacy era with limited capabilities and a Cold War ethos to a modular expeditionary era with more capabilities and a honed warrior ethos making us better equipped and prepared to answer our nation’s call,” said Pitts, who took command of

the 16th Sustainment Brigade after commanding the 7th CSG for the past year.

The 16th Sustainment Brigade will be the only enduring brigade-sized logistics unit within the U.S. Army in Europe.

The brigade faces a momentous challenge – it will not only retain all current logistics functions and responsibilities, but will also assimilate additional services, like finance, medical and signal capabilities, said Lt. Col. Russell Cole, the brigade’s deputy commander.

Additionally, the brigade’s mission will change from U.S. Army Europe-focused support, to sustaining Army units worldwide when deployed, Cole said.

This is where being within the fold of the 21st TSC has some distinct advantages. “It provides us with the ability to remain expeditionary in nature, because of the 21st TSC’s ownership of the Theater Logistics Support Center Europe,” Cole said.

For a forward-deploying organization, it will be invaluable to be partnered with a unit that maintains a solid theater sustainment and support base.

However, despite the increased capability and function, the 16th Sustainment Brigade’s commitment, concern and compassion for Soldiers and their families will remain constant, Pitts said.

Heidelberg hospital changes leaders

MEDDAC-Heidelberg

Col. Kyle Campbell took charge of the U.S. Army Medical Department Activity Heidelberg in a ceremony on the hospital’s Nachrichten Kaserne parade field July 19. His predecessor, Col. William Novakoski, stayed in Heidelberg to serve as the V Corps surgeon.

In a ceremony involving Soldiers and civilians from health clinics supported by the hospital in the Mannheim, Darmstadt, Hanau and Stuttgart communities, words of praise were used to describe Novakoski’s leadership during the past two years.

“A change of command is a time to focus as we collectively reflect on an organization’s accomplishments,” said Brig. Gen. David Rubenstein,

commander, Europe Regional Medical Command.

“With (U.S. Army Europe) transformation comes change.” In Novakoski’s two-year tenure, four health clinics close. “In this midst of this has been the continued commitment to providing quality health care,” Rubenstein said. “He has excelled in his vision and his leadership.”

Campbell is no stranger to Germany or to Heidelberg. He has previously served with the ERMIC, the higher headquarters for Heidelberg Hospital. He comes here from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces in Washington, D.C.

“We will continue to do the right thing the right way for the right reasons,” Campbell said. “And we will keep this winning team both winning and safe.”

7th Signal Brigade changes command

**By Jonathon M. Gray
5th Signal Command**

The reins of 5th Signal Command’s 7th Signal Brigade were entrusted to a new leader at a change of command ceremony held at the Sullivan Barracks Parade Field in Mannheim Friday.

The “Voice of Freedom” brigade Soldiers along with more than 200 guests welcomed incoming commander, Col. Randall W. Bland, who accepted the colors from Brig. Gen. Susan S. Lawrence, reviewing officer and commander, 5th Signal Command.

The outgoing commander, Lt. Col. Dana S. Tankins, will remain in Mannheim, serving as the 5th Signal Command operations officer on Funari Barracks.

During his time in 7th Signal, Tankins supported the transformation of the 72nd and 44th into expeditionary signal battalions. This change included completion of Joint Network Node training and confidence testing and upgrading to a new fleet of more than 100 primary ESB communication systems.

“(The) 7th Signal Brigade’s accomplishments over the last year were only achievable through the sheer grit, determination, and individual heroics of every Soldier, civilian and family member on the team,” Tankins said. “Collectively, you moved mountains and accomplished every mission assigned to standard and on time, regardless of the hardship or challenge.”

Bland comes to 7th Signal after serving as the information infrastructure support division chief in the Directorate of Command and Control, Communications and Computer Systems, United States Central Command J6.

“I am genuinely grateful for the opportunity to join and lead this outstanding team,” he said. “The rucksack of responsibility is heavy and impossible for one person to bear alone.”

“I look forward to working with senior, subordinate and fellow commanders, the Mannheim military community, Soldiers and civilians of the 7th Signal Brigade, and our host nation partners to share the burden and move forward together.”

Lawrence said the 7th Signal Brigade had a dynamic year in welcoming home the 72nd Signal Battalion, preparing to deploy the 44th, and fielding JNN technologies.

The brigade was also awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation for service in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom for providing critical battle command support to combatant commanders by engineering, installing, managing, and controlling a large and diverse expeditionary and operational-based communications network from Baghdad to Southern Kuwait.

The 7th Signal Brigade, headquartered on Sullivan Barracks, is the tactical theater signal brigade for the European theater.

Its mission is to provide expeditionary, command post-centric command and control communications support to Army, joint and combined forces within the more than 100-country U.S. European Command and U.S. Africa Command.

JROTC camp instills physical, leadership skills

By Bilyana Atova
USAG Grafenwöhr

GRAFENWÖHR – Asked what challenged her most during a Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps event here, Alex Melendez responded in standard teenage fashion: “waking up early.” Her follow-up comment, however, shows a growing maturity.

“Also...it’s me being a leader, to have control and to make my platoon listen to me,” Melendez said. “I like to take care of them.”

Melendez – from Baumholder High School – was one of 117 cadets from 21 Department of Defense Dependent Schools in Europe who participated in a 10-day JROTC Cadet Leadership Challenge here June 17-27.

The camp is part of the Army JROTC program, which prepares high-school students for leadership roles by educating them of their rights, responsibilities and privileges as U.S. citizens.

Retired Maj. David Schwab, a senior JROTC instructor, labeled JROTC classes different from typical school courses as they “put more brainstorming and team-work techniques to use.”

The annual camp, held in Grafenwöhr’s training area since 1995, tests cadets physically and mentally in an entertaining environment. Coached by professionals, the teenagers mastered a number of challenges: drown-proofing exercises, canoeing, ropes course, rappelling and climbing, leadership-reaction obstacle course, and urban orienteering.

Additionally, cadets rotated their rank daily. “Some days they were

followers, some days leaders,” said Maj. Bob Hase, director of Army Instruction for DoDDS-Europe JROTC.

The resulting teamwork and emotional support proved crucial to completing each task successfully.

“I liked canoeing because of the rapids,” said Bryan Michel, from Naples American High School in Italy. “I have never done something like that before.”

“The high rope course was really challenging because I am afraid of heights,” said ShaQuana Harmon, a second-year cadet from Vilseck High School. “But I didn’t want to give up – so I did it!”

“When I went up there, I panicked; I thought I am going to fall,” admitted Melendez after completing the rope course “Everyone looked like little ants, but it also felt like, ‘Oh, my God, I did it.’”

And, for the first time, cadets rappelled from a 60-foot tower normally used by Soldiers who train on Grafenwöhr’s vast training grounds.

The tower has two levels, with the teens rappelling from both. “The small one was scarier,” recalled Ledesma, “because it is the first time you are doing it. You see the wall, you get nervous, but then it is all fine.”

During the 10-day challenge, participants lost most of their hi-tech conveniences – Internet, iPods and cell phones.

“We (even) took their candy when they arrived,” said Schwab, noting that the cadets substituted sodas for healthier drinks like milk, water and juice.

And as for sleeping in late, that had to wait until returning home.



Maj. David Schwab

Lisa Martin, Hanau High School, Tyler Perry, Vicenza High School, and Eric Perez, Ansbach High School, help Brian Jaovis, Heidelberg High School, climb the 5-meter wall during a Junoir Reserve Officer Training Corps event in Grafenwöhr last month. Nearly 120 cadets from 21 Department of Defense Dependent Schools participated.

GETTING A CLUE



Gene Knudsen

Investigator Clayton Doughty displays fingerprinting techniques to more than 100 young people gathered at the Patrick Henry Village Library July 17 as a part of the library’s annual Summer Reading Program. This summer’s reading theme, “Get a Clue” gave Clayton the chance to demonstrate procedures used by the Provost Marshal’s Office in solving crimes.

Practice water safety

Drowning accidents have killed
9 Soldiers this fiscal year

By Lori Yerdon

U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center

FORT RUCKER, Ala. – Off-duty drowning accidents have claimed the lives of more Soldiers to date this fiscal year than all of fiscal 2006.

The Army has lost nine Soldiers this fiscal year to drowning accidents. In June, while swimming at a lake with several other Soldiers, a Soldier accidentally drowned. As the group prepared to leave, they were unable to locate the Soldier. Local authorities later discovered his body floating in the water.

In May, a Soldier died in a watercraft accident when the kayak, he and another Soldier were using, overturned. The victim was not wearing a personal flotation device.

A swimming pool is 14 times more likely, than a motor vehicle, to be a contributing factor in the death of a child age 4 and under.

“Drowning is ... called the silent killer, because when a child is underwater screaming for help, you will not hear them. Even adults should never swim alone,” said Stephen Miller, fire captain for the Orange County California Fire Authority.

sports & fitness

Summer Slam '07

Teams from the USAG Heidelberg military community and beyond met on Patton and Tompkins Barracks' for three days of head-to-head competition.

Summer Slam Champions:

Men Basketball: FUBU 73, USC Heidelberg 58

Women Basketball: Heidelberg 41, Minus1 40

Men Softball: Mildenhall 21, Stuttgart 19

Women Softball: Ramstein 9, SHAPE 3

Volleyball

Four-person teams:

Champions: Quincy and Audrey Tiumala, Joe Hussein, Sivia Paola

Runners-up – Lori Smith, Paulo Momosea, Maria Hussein, Conrad Niko

Doubles

Champions – Sara Fields, Fatma Lockett

Runners-up – Belinda May, Bill Bossinger



Dave Melancon

Two FUBU players battle a USC Heidelberg player for a rebound during the championship game. FUBU took the match and the top-place finish 73-58.



Gene Knudsen

Heidelberg's Fatma Lockett spikes a return to her opponents during Summer Slam at the Patton Barracks.



Dave Melancon

A USAG Stuttgart runner safely plows his way home during the championship match-up against Mildenhall, who went home with the trophy 21-19.

Heidleberg Golf Open

The annual three-day Heidelberg Golf Open over the weekend two 20-year old German golfers tied regular play at seven-under-par 209, with Allen Johan shooting a birdie on the third sudden death playoff hole to win from fellow St Leon-Rot golfer Stephen Gross.

Johan and Gross are members of the German national Men's team.

The Heidelberg tourney had 144 participants divided into eight flights. Joe Pineda won Flight B with 222. Mat Castillo won Flight C at 221. Flight D

was won by Klaus Rippenberger's 241.

In Flight E, Bill Darlison was first. Julian Sutton won Flight F with 254. Eddie Pineda won Flight G with 272. The final flight, H, was won by 10-year old Maxi Bogel at 259.

Zlatko Tadic and Sidney Clark had aces on holes 7 and 15 respectively. Jason Perry and Paul Taylor won the regular putting contest, and Allen John the Log Drive contest (357 yards).

Tadic also won the helicopter putting playoff, a new event with the top two prizes being helicopter rides.

-Submitted by Rex Gribble

sports shorts

Mannheim

Red and Black Mustang Summer Hoop Camp - For ages 6-18 years old at Ben Franklin Village Sports Arena. Male players' camp: Aug. 5-7; females: Aug. 8-10.

Free Tae-Bo Introduction - Sullivan Gym Aug. 4, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. DSN 385-2001, civilian 0621-730-2001.

Darmstadt

IMCOM Softball Championships will be held Aug. 16-19 at Memory and Freedom Fields. DSN 348-6318.

Boys Athletic Dance - Sept. 4 through Dec. 8. Offered for boys ages 8 and older. Cost \$105. DSN 348-7605.

Kaiserslautern

Grand Opening Virtual Bowling and Back 40, 5 p.m. Armstrong's Club. One free game per person, 5-7 p.m., Back 40 Darts/Billiards, video games free play.

Heidelberg

Head Coaches for community basketball teams needed. DSN 373-8032.

USO Golf Benefit Sept. 7 at the Heidelberg Golf Course. Cost: \$40 per person or \$140 per team of 4. Shotgun start at 8 a.m. Limit: 120 players or 30 teams.

Sea Lions Swim Team: Swim camp Aug. 20-24. www.heidelbergsealions.com.

FRANKFURT ZOO

Visit the Artic, Amazon in minutes

by Christine June
USAG Kaiserslautern

At 11 acres, it may be a small zoo compared to others, but the Frankfurt Zoo offers visitors a chance to see 5,000 animals of 500 different species and landscapes of the Artic and Amazon in a matter of minutes.

Technically speaking, it could be seconds or as long as it takes for visitors to move their heads from right to left upon entering the Exotarium.

One of six houses at the zoo, the Exotarium showcases penguins and a polar landscape on the right, while immediately to the left are aquariums highlighting the exotic fish and plants inhabiting the Amazon river basin.

On the second floor of the house are crocodiles, snakes, insects and lizards that also call the Amazon home.

This is one of the main attractions at the zoo, said Dr. Caroline Liefke, the zoo's public relations officer, who also said about 900,000 people visit the zoo every year.

Another attraction is the "Grzimekhaus" or the day and night house. Built in 1978, the Grzimekhaus is still among the largest exhibit of nocturnal animals in Europe, Liefke said.

"The day and night house is very specific," she said. "It's very dark, and you can see how night animals live."

The great ape and ape houses show several types of primates in their natural surroundings. Liefke said a new ape house is currently being built at the zoo and should be finished by the end of the year. The current ape house was built in 1950 and, Liefke said, is now too small and does not have trees for the three types of primates – orangutan, gorilla and baboon.

The zoo is located in the middle of Frankfurt, and in 2008, it will celebrate 150 years.



East African crowned cranes and Chilean and Caribbean flamingos live together at the Frankfurt Zoo. (left) Gentoo penguins swim in the polar landscape in the Exotarium.



Photos by Christine June

An Orangutan eyes visitors in his habitat at the Frankfurt Zoo's Ape House.

There are also two restaurants, one

Liefke said children especially enjoy the seal exhibit where they can see two types of seals flocking above water and then they can go down a tunnel and see them swimming.

There are also two restaurants, one

on each side of the zoo – the snack bar and cafeteria Happy Bär and the Mexican Restaurant Sombrero im Zoo. Both have large terraces where school groups can eat bagged lunches or sit on benches at the great ape and ape houses and enjoy lunch.

ZOOinfo

Open Daily
Summer: 9 a.m.-7 p.m.
Alfred-Brehm-Platz 16
60316 Frankfurt am Main
www.zoo-frankfurt.de

GRILLINGtips

- ◆Use barbecue grills outdoors only. Never barbecue in any enclosed area because carbon monoxide may accumulate and cause a fatal injury.
- ◆Ensure grills are in an open area away from buildings, overhead combustible surfaces, dry leaves or brush.
- ◆Use barbecue utensils with long handles to avoid burns.
- ◆Use flame-retardant mitts when adjusting hot vents.
- ◆Use baking soda to control a grease fire and have a fire extinguisher handy.
- ◆Don't allow anyone to conduct activity near the grill when in use or immediately following its use. The grill body remains hot up to an hour after being used.

More info: Visit www.hpba.org and www.fsfs.usda.gov

Use grills safely to avoid serious injury

By Lori Yerdon
U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center

FORT RUCKER, Ala. – With 81 percent of all U.S. households owning a charcoal, electric or gas grill, practicing a little common sense and adhering to safe barbecuing practices will reduce the chance of serious injury while grilling.

According to the Hearth, Patio and Barbecue Association, 60 percent of grill owners use their grills year-round, with 47 percent grilling at least one to two times per week during peak summer months.

"Being responsible with grills, especially around children, is important," said Deidra Darsa, HPBA. Everyone must realize that when people are grill-

ing, they're working with fire and there's always a chance of getting burned, Darsa added.

In May, while trying to light a grill, a Soldier was burned on his face and arms. He used an excessive amount of lighter fluid on some charcoal then closed the grill cover. When the Soldier attempted to light the grill a few moments later, it exploded, resulting in first and second degree burns.

"Grilling-related accidents send numerous individuals to emergency rooms each year," said Col. John Campbell, command surgeon for the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center. "By understanding safe techniques and precautions, the number can be drastically reduced."

community update

Darmstadt

Training

ACS Classes - Darmstadt Army Community Service Aug. 9, 1:30-3:30 p.m., “There’s No Place Like UR NXT Home.” DSN 348-6440, civilian 06151-69-6440.

Community

Blood Drive – Darmstadt holds blood drive sponsored by the 66th Military Intelligence Group July 27 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Kelley Barracks Fitness Center. DSN 348-7911, civilian 06151-69-7911.

National Night Out – An event that promotes safety awareness and introduces local emergency services to the community will be held Aug. 3 from 4- 7 p.m. at the Exchange parking lot on Cambrai-Fritsch Kaserne.

CYS Events - Darmstadt Child and Youth Services upcoming events: Aug. 3, 6:30 p.m.-10:30 p.m., parents’ night out (space is limited, so please register in advance). Every Friday from noon-3 p.m. School Age Services sponsors a summer camp BBQ. DSN 348-7605, civilian 06151-69-7605.

CYS Instructors Needed – CYS is looking for instructors for guitar, piano and voice lessons. DSN 348-7605, civilian 06151-69-7605.

Summer Reading Program – The Darmstadt Library is sponsoring “Get a Clue @ Your Library” open to children ages 5-12. Registration is free. DSN 348-1740, civilian 06151-69-1740.

Summer Camp – School Age Services Summer Camp is going on now. Registration is open to the community and on a weekly basis. DSN 348-7605, civilian 06151-69-7605.

Parents’ Night Out – CYS will take care of your children from 6:30-10:30 p.m. the first Friday of the month. Space is limited; register in advance. DSN 348-7605, civilian 06151-69-7605.

Vacation Bible School – Volunteers are needed to help coordinate games, crafts, snacks and music Aug. 13-17. DSN 348-1570, civilian 06151-669-0384.

Play Mornings – Offered every Thursday, 10-11:30 a.m. at the Kids’ Zone. DSN 348-6440, civilian 06151-69-6440.

Chapel Youth Group – The Nova high school group meets Sundays at 6:30 p.m. The Salvage middle school group meets Mondays at 6:30 p.m. throughout the summer. DSN 348-6500 civilian 0152-464-9948.

Kaiserslautern

Training

Build Your Résumé – Army Community Service offers assistance Tuesdays, 1-3 p.m., and Thursdays, 9-10:30 a.m. Reservations required; classes meet at Building 2925, Pulaski Barracks. DSN 489-6476, civilian 0631-536-647.

Anger Management – Army Community Service, Mondays, 9 a.m. DSN 489-6476, civilian 0631-536-647.

University of Phoenix – An enrollment counselor is available Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Education Center, Rhine Ordnance Barracks. DSN 480-8993.

Free Public Seminar - The University of Oklahoma hosts a public seminar on “Confronting Terrorism: Group Motivations and Successful State Policies” noon-1 p.m. Aug. 10 at the Learning Center, Building 3718, Landstuhl Regional Medical Center.

Foreign Spouse Orientation- Army Community Service Aug. 2 at 1 p.m. at Building 2925, Pulaski Barracks. DSN 489-6476, civilian 0631-536-647.

Community

ID Cards – The ID card office is open Saturdays 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. by appointment starting July 28. Sponsors must be present for family members; must bring two forms of unexpired source documents including a picture ID. DSN 483-7662, civilian 0631-411-7662.

HUGS Playgroups- Playgroups 1 meets at Pulaski Barracks Kids’ Zone Thursdays at 10 a.m. Playgroup 2 meets at Landstuhl Building 3701, Tuesdays. DSN: 489-6476, civilian 0631-536-647.

Story Time- Kleber library offers preschool story time Fridays at 9:30 a.m. and Toddler story time Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. DSN: 483-1740, civilian 0631-411-1740. Miesau library offers “Boots and Books” every Thursday 3:30 p.m. DSN 481-3755, civilian 06372-842-3755.

Libraries Change Hours – Starting July 23. Kleber: Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Miesau: Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. (closed 1-2 p.m.). Landstuhl: Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Summer Reading Program – Theme-based story times and activities take place weekly until Aug. 3. Story time “End of Summer reading celebration”, Aug. 9. DSN 486-8390, civilian 06371-86-8390.

Parents’ Night Out – July 28, Aug. 25 and Sept. 22, 6-11 p.m. Register at Central Enrollment Building 2898 Pulaski Barracks. Reservations can be made two weeks in advance at Landstuhl, Kleber and Miesau Child Development Centers. DSN 489-6142, civilian 0631-536-6142.

Family Fun Night - The U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern’s Army Community Service hosts a Family Fun Night “Back to School Blast” 5 to 7 p.m. Aug. 16 at the Kid’s Zone on Pulaski Barracks. DSN 489-7521.

Vacation Bible School – The Army and Air Force chapels host the Kaiserslautern Military Community Vacation Bible School 2007 for children ages 4 to 12 years Aug. 6-10 from 9 a.m.-noon at the Ramstein Elementary School. Registration must be completed by July 30. DSN 489-6743.

Get A Clue @ Your Library - Kaiserslautern Army libraries host the U.S. Forces Europe Get a Clue @ your library summer reading program until Aug. 4 at the libraries on Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Miesau Army Depot and Kleber Kaserne. Landstuhl

library, DSN 481-3755, Kleber library, DSN 483-1740. A reading celebration is set for Aug. 9, 10 a.m. to noon at the Landstuhl library.

Summer Camp - Landstuhl School Age Services open to children in first through fifth grades, Monday through Friday until Aug. 23. Weekly or daily contracts available. DSN 486-7281, civilian 0631-86-7281.

Heidelberg

American Red Cross Classes – First aid; adult, child and infant CPR; and AED classes Aug. 11 and 25, 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Cost: \$35. Register at the American Red Cross, Heidelberg Shopping Center, Building 3850, Room 263. DSN 370-1760, civilian 06221-57-1760.

Vacation Bible School – Scheduled for July 30-Aug. 3, 9 a.m. – noon at the Mark Twain Village Elementary School. Pre-registration at post chapels or Patrick Henry Village Library. Volunteers needed. DSN 388-9406.

Volksmarch Volunteers Needed – Heidelberg’s 33rd annual Volksmarch will be held Sept. 8-9. Help is needed in all areas. Civilian 06227-841226 or volunteers@hiwc.de.

Alcoholics Anonymous – The Heidelberg Lunch-time Group meets Tuesdays at noon in the third-floor conference room, Building 3752, Roemerstrasse 104. DSN 370-1710, civilian 0174- 4472749.

Mannheim

Community

Youth Services Programs – The programs are held at the tennis courts, Ben Franklin Village: July 21, 4-5 p.m. DSN 385-3550, civilian 0621-730-3550.

Torch Club - Aug. 1 and 18, 4 - 5 p.m.:

Club Tech - Aug. 2 and 16, 4 - 5 p.m.

Character Counts - Aug. 3, 4 - 5 p.m.

4-H Club - Cooking Club, Photography Club, Middle School Council, and High School Council all combined in this one club. Aug. 7, 4 - 5 p.m.

Youth Action Council - Aug. 11, 4 - 5 p.m.

Youth Health Fair – Aug. 11, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Promote youth health awareness, school and sports physicals. Book appointments now. Walk-ins are accepted on a space-available basis. DSN 380-9501, civilian 0621-730-9501.

Army Community Service

Housing and Finances - Aug. 1 and 8, 2 - 3 p.m.

Account Management - Aug. 7, 9 - 11 a.m.

Job Information Class - Aug. 7 and 21, 10- 11 a.m.

RESUMIX WORKSHOP Aug. 8, 22, 10- 11 a.m.

Family Readiness Group - Key Caller Training: Aug. 8, 9 -11:30 a.m. and 6 - 8:30 p.m.

Sponsorship Training - Aug 8, 3 - 4 p.m.

Deployment Briefing - Aug. 9, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Held at the Schuh Theater.

EMPLOYMENTopportunities

Mannheim

The Army Community Service and Army Career Alumni Program sponsor the the 2007 Mannheim Summer Job Fair Saturday Aug. 11, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. There will be more than 25 employers interested in your talents, skills and abilities. Universities and colleges will provide information on educational opportunities; military recruiters will be present as well as representatives from agencies looking for volunteers. Family members, active-duty service members and other ID card holders invited. Bring your resumes and dress for success. Civilian 0621-730-2697 or 0621-730-2281.

Kaiserslautern

Child and Youth Services seeks program assistants. Flexible schedules, training provided, scholarships available. Open to U.S. military family members with ID card and Social Security number. DSN 489-4341.

Child and Youth Services are seeking Child/ Youth Program Assistants. Positions open to U.S military family members with ID card and Social Security number. DSN 489-4341, civilian 0631-536-7341.

Darmstadt

Darmstadt Child and Youth Services is hiring. For more information on how to join our team, call DSN 384-7444, civilian 06151-69-444.

Heidelberg

SKIES Unlimited seeks a dance instructor for tap, jazz and kindergarten ballet or similar disciplines. DSN 388-9399, civilian 06221-338-9399.

The Heidelberg Garrison Army Community Service seeks an Employment Readiness Program Educator. Responsibilities include teaching computer classes, teaching employment skills classes and administrative duties. Information DSN: 370-6883, civilian 06221-57-6883

Job announcements in this section are for government agencies and Army-supported private organizations. Others should contact the publisher at 06221-603039.

leisure events



Christine Gebhard

Thanking a friend

Lt. Col. Jeffrey Fletcher, Mannheim garrison commander, bids farewell to Mannheim's Lord Mayor Gerhard Widder, who is retiring after 24 years of service, on behalf of the military community July 17 at Mannheim City Hall.

July 27-29

Camping and Extreme weekend, Switzerland - Kaiserslautern Army Outdoor Recreation DSN 489-7751, civilian 0631-536-7751.

July 28

Deep Sea Fishing - Netherlands Kaiserslautern Army Outdoor Recreation DSN 489-7751, civilian 0631-536-7751.

Paris Express - Kaiserslautern Army Outdoor Recreation DSN 489-7751, civilian 0631-536-7751.

Shopping Trip – Darmstadt Outdoor Recreation will host a shopping trip to Saarbrücken. DSN 348-6277, civilian 06151-69-6277.

Giant Indoor Flea Market - 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., Rhine Ordnance Barracks, Building 23. DSN 489-7723, civilian 0631-536-7723.

Black Forest – Tour the city of Triberg. Cost: Adults \$50; Children (12 and under) \$39. DSN 385-3468, civilian 0621-730-3468.

Wounded Warriors Chapter Cookout and Castle Illumination Boat Ride - Sponsored by the Rhein Neckar Silver Chapter Warrant Officers Association. Servicemembers recovering from their injuries are invited to enjoy a day in the Heidelberg area. Sales defray the warriors' fees. Heidelberg, DSN 370-8143; Darmstadt, DSN 344-7773; Mannheim, DSN 385-2262; Schwetzingen, DSN 379-9454.

Paintball Play Day- For units and individuals. Mannheim Outdoor Recreation DSN 381-7215, civilian 0621-739-25.

July 29

Spa Day in Baden-Baden - Kaiserslautern Army Outdoor Recreation DSN 489-7751, civilian 0631-536-7751.

August 3-5

Paris Weekend - Kaiserslautern Army Outdoor Recreation DSN 489-7751, civilian 0631-536-7751.

August 4

Skydiving - Kaiserslautern Army Outdoor Recreation DSN 489-7751, civilian 0631-536-7751

Swiss Alps Adventure Express - Kaiserslautern Army Outdoor Recreation DSN 489-7751, civilian 0631-536-7751.

Rhine River Cruise - Cruise the mighty Rhine River at its most famous stretch from Rudesheim to St. Goar. The ship will pass castles, fortresses and the legendary Lorelei Rock. Cost: Adults, \$55; children 4-12, \$35; children 3 and under, \$20. DSN 385-2082, civilian 621-730-2082.

Paintball Play Day - For units and individuals. Mannheim Outdoor Recreation DSN 381-7215, civilian 0621-739-25.

August 5

Trout Fishing Abenteuer - Kaiserslautern Army Outdoor Recreation DSN 489-7751.

August 11

Indoor Wall Climbing - Learn the thrills of beginning to advance climbing. Mannheim Outdoor Recreation DSN 381-7215, civilian 0621-739-25

August 12

Rothenburg of Der Tauber Trip - Visit one of the most famous medieval towns in Germany as it comes alive with costumed people participating in pageants and a colorful market. Mannheim Outdoor Recreation DSN 381-7215, civilian 0621-739-25.

August 17

Parents' Lock In - Aug 17, register at Central Enrollment Building 2898 Pulaski Barracks. Reservations can be made starting two weeks in advance at Landstuhl, Kleber, and Miesau CDCS. DSN 489-6142, civilian 0631-536-6142.

August 17-19

Mini Bazaar - 10 a.m. Landstuhl Club Building 3780 – Souvenirs, collectables, treasures, and more! Strollers welcome, all club events will be canceled due to Mini Bazaar, and ID cardholders only.

August 24

Dance Classes – The USO will offer adult and children's dance classes at the Mannheim USO beginning Aug. 24. There will be separate classes for 2-4 year olds, 5-12 year olds and adults. Cost: \$10 per class. Civilian 0621-730-2082.

August 25

Kinder Cancer Walk – There will be a benefit Cancer Walk in Eppenheim starting at the Shutzenhaus Schnitzel Restaurant at 4 p.m. Registration Deadline is July 30. Walk from 4 to 5 p.m. Free food and drink

Movies

Movies are subject to change by local theater without notice. For a recorded daily schedule, call the numbers listed next to each theater.

Patrick Henry Village, Heidelberg 06221-27-238

July 26 - Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (PG-13) 7 p.m.
July 27 - Hairspray (PG) 6:30 p.m., Bug (R) 9:30 p.m.
July 28 - Shrek the Third (PG) 2 p.m.; Bug (R) 5 p.m.; Hairspray (PG) 9:30 p.m.
July 29 - Hairspray (PG) 2 p.m.; Shrek the Third (PG) 5 p.m.
July 30 - Bug (R) 7 p.m.
July 31 - Shrek the Third (PG) 7 p.m.
Aug. 1 - Hairspray (PG) 7 p.m.
Aug. 2 - Shrek the Third (PG) 7 p.m.

Schuh Theater, Mannheim 0621-730-1790

July 26 - Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (PG-13) 3 P.M.; The Condemned (R) 7 P.M.
July 27 - Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (PG-13) 6 p.m.; Bug (R) 9:30 p.m.
July 28 - Shrek the Third (PG) 1:30 p.m.; Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (PG-13) 4:30 p.m.; Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (PG-13) 8 p.m.
July 30 - Bug (R) 7 p.m.
July 31 - Shrek the Third (PG) 7 p.m.
Aug. 1 - Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Aug. 2 - Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Cambrai, Darmstadt 06151-69-1790

July 27 - Bug (R) 7 p.m.
July 28 - Shrek the Third (PG); 7 p.m.; Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer (PG) 4 p.m.
July 29 - Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer (PG) 4 p.m.

following the walk at the Schutzenhaus. Raffles for prizes. Proceeds will go to the Cancer Clinic. Civilian 06221-767539. Cost: \$10 or 10 Euro. DSN 385-2082, civilian 621-730-2082.

September 7

Golf Benefit - The 21st annual USO Golf Benefit will be held at the Heideberg Golf Course with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. Cost: \$40 per person or \$140 per team of four.

Ongoing

Camping Equipment Discount, Mannheim – Outdoor Recreation is offering a 15 percent discount off camping equipment during July. DSN 381-7215, civilian 0621-739-251.

Craft Time, Darmstadt – The Multi-crafts Center has a sewing open house Tuesdays-Saturdays, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. The passport photos and portrait studio is open Fridays and Saturdays, 12:30-6 p.m. Scrapbooking workshops take place Thursdays and Saturdays, 1-4 p.m., and the woodshop safety class is every Saturday, noon-1 p.m. The multi-crafts center also has new Darmstadt afghans depicting local and German landmarks. DSN 348-6226, civilian 06151-69-6226.

KMC Onstage - Volunteers and actors are needed for future productions. DSN 483-6626, civilian 0631-411-6626.